(5) Encouraging production of coloured and flavoured margerine and blended oils.

(c) The Government's views on the suggestions made by V.M.A. are adseriatim ;—

(1) As groundnut and mustard/rapeseed oils are used for direct consumption in raw form it will not be in public interest to totally remove curbs on their use in vanaspati. To encourage more production and remunerative prices to farmers use of limited quantities of mustard/rapeseed oil has been allowed in the manufacture of vanaspati.

(2) The underlying objective of Public Distribution System is to ensure availability of essential commodities to consumers, including weaker sections of society, at reasonable price as also to keep the prices of indigenous oils in check. The prices of imported oil released for PDS are kept at a reasonable level.

(3) The farmers are being encouraged to cultivate high yielding oilseeds. Cultivation of soyabean also is being encouraged for its oil yield as well as for providing protein rich foods. Cultivation of sunflower is also being encouraged in various States.

(4) To encourage production of ricebran oil sustained efforts are being made to convert small hullers into shellers in rice mills. A rebate of Rs. 300 per tonne is being allowed by Government for use of ricebran oil in the manufacture of vanaspati; and

(5) The question of addition of colour and flavour in margerine is engaging the attention of Government. Some blending of edible oils has been approved.

Introduction of the scheme of cattle insurance in the country

1361. SHRI RAMANAND YADAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal before Government to introduce cattle insurance all over the country;

(b) which are the States where partial cattle insurance scheme has been introduced; and

(c) if so, when the crop insurance scheme will be introduced in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) and (b) Cattle and Livestock Insurance Scheme are operated lin the country since 1974 by the General Insurance Corporation of India through its subsidiary companies.

(c) A Comprehensive Scheme of Crop Insurance has already been introduced in the country with effect from Kharif 1985 to cover wheat, paddy, millets. oilseeds and pulses.

Wastage of large quantity of fish due to non-availability of cold storage in Visakhapatnam

1362. DR SUYAM SUNDAR MOHAPATRA:
SRHI V. GOPALSAMY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news item which appeared in the 'Times of India' of 22nd October, 1985 under the caption "Large quantity of fish being wasted";

(b) if so, what steps are proposed to be taken to make available cold storage facilities of Visakhapatnam;

(c) whether any survey has been conducted to ascertain the existing cold storage facilities available at Visakhapatnam, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government propose to conduct a study to find out aspect of problems of fishing industry at Visakhapatnam, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No proposal to make available cold storage facilities at Visakhapatnam has been received by the Government of India so far. However, a sizeable capacity of cold storage facilities owned by the private sector exists at Visakhapatnam.

(c) Yes, Sir. A detailed survey of cold storage facilities available in the country including Visakhapatnam has been conducted with the help of Indian Institute of Management, Ahemdabad.

(d) The Government is constantly monitoring the problems of the fishing industry in the country for taking appropriate measures.

Taking over of Nationalised Sugar Factories by the Bihar Government

1363. SHRI RAMANAND YADAV: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the three sugar factories namely S.K.G. Siwan, S.K.G. Hathawa and S.K.G. Lauriya which are owned by the Dalmia Jain concern are closed indefinitely;

(b) whether it is a fact that these three mills have been taken over recently by the Bihar Government;

(c) whether Government are aware that the three mills mentioned above have not yet cleared the arrears of the cane growers to the tune of more than Rs. 3 crores;

(d) whether the three mills will start crushing sugarcane this season; and

(e) whether the Central Government will advise the Bihar Government to pay back all the dues of the cane growers of these mills?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) The three mills have not worked since last season i.e. 1984-85.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Only S.K.G. mills, Lauriya has furnished estimates of crushing for 1985-86 season but no information is available as to whether the factory has actually started working. No estimate has been received from the other two mills.

(e) The Central Government have been writing to the Bihar Government from time to time about expeditious clearance of cane price arrears. They have been addressed again on 26th November, 1985 in respect of these three mills.

Production of vanaspati and edible oils

1364. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) what has been the total production of vanaspati and other edible oils during the last three years and what has been the price of these oils during the last three years; and